

2014 NATA Ethylene Oxide Risk
Region 6 Update
July 15, 2019

Region 6 has shared information and discussed the 2014 NATA with its five states. Consistent with the national approach, we are focusing our attention on the areas with the highest estimated risks and the associated facility emissions in those areas.

We have actively engaged our two primary states, Texas and Louisiana, due to areas with potential ethylene oxide risks. We have evaluated emissions, permits, NESHAP regulatory applicability, and compliance at relevant facilities in these areas. We updated the 2014 NATA estimates with the most recent information and, without further modeling, made rough, revised risk estimates.

After multiple discussions and meetings with Texas and Louisiana, Region 6 is supporting state efforts to further examine or reduce ethylene oxide risks and emissions. Noting that the MON due out this summer won't provide a silver bullet for Region 6 facilities, the states are investigating approaches for reducing emissions.

- Louisiana sent letters to all permitted emitters of ethylene oxide requesting that they review their emissions data and explore proactive measures to reduce ethylene oxide emissions. LDEQ has had subsequent discussions with its facilities. EPA provided the state with possible voluntary actions available to industry to reduce ethylene oxide emissions. Louisiana has requested joint messaging with Region 6 for ethylene oxide.
- Texas proposed a revised state health effects screening level (ESL) for ethylene oxide. On June 28th, TCEQ released a draft ESL development decision document for public comment. Region 6 shared this document with OAQPS & ORD. Louisiana, who has a state ambient air toxics standard for ethylene oxide, is also closely following TCEQ's efforts. Region 6 verified that TCEQ was comfortable with their level of communication and interaction with the relevant offices at EPA and ORD in future decision making and regarding the Texas efforts to revise their state ethylene oxide screening level.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)